

FARM ANIMALS

FEEDING POTATOES TO HOGS

Fed to Best Advantage When Cooked or Steamed and Mixed With Various Other Feeds.

On account of the low price of potatoes in many sections farmers have been seeking information as to the possibility of feeding them to hogs.

Many experiments have been conducted in Germany and other foreign countries as well as a few in the United States to determine the value of potatoes as feed for swine. In Ireland and Germany farmers feed large quantities of potatoes annually. From experimental data it has been concluded that 4 to 4½ bushels of potatoes when cooked are equal to about one bushel of corn for putting gains on hogs. Therefore, if corn is worth \$0 cents a bushel, potatoes when fed to hogs would be worth only 18 or 20 cents a bushel. There may, however, be instances where it would be more advantageous for the farmer to feed to hogs right on his own place at least part of his crop rather than to haul these potatoes to an already overloaded market.

According to the consensus of opinion, potatoes are fed to the best advantage when cooked or steamed and mixed with other feeds. Experiments in which raw potatoes were fed alone have been reported. In certain instances the raw potatoes are said to have caused scours. However, raw potatoes in small quantities and in a diet lacking succulence may be conducive to health in pigs.

In cooking potatoes only enough water should be used to make a mealy mash and prevent burning. The resultant meal should then be mixed with corn meal or other grain supplement. Tankage, skim milk, or meat meal would probably add to the profit of the mixture. Potatoes when prepared in the manner described and under the conditions mentioned can often be fed to pigs with advantage.

SUPPLYING WATER TO SWINE

One of Difficult Problems Hog Raisers Must Solve in Winter—Tank Heaters Are Best.

It is true that hogs, especially pigs, do not get as much water as they need during cold, freezing weather. The water should be heated in cold weather to at least 50 degrees Fahrenheit, and it is better if it is heated to 70 or 80 degrees. How to heat the water and keep it warm is one of the difficult problems hog raisers have to solve in winter.

Some folks water the hogs several times during the day and pour all the water that is left out of the troughs as soon as the hogs drink.

Others have arranged various devices in which they can use tank heaters. This is the most convenient and satisfactory way if a large number of hogs can be watered at one place. The method to use will have to be determined by local conditions.

Hogs do not thrive or make good gains when ice water is given them in troughs that already are half filled with ice.

IMPROVING THE FARM HORSE

Up to Owners of Breeding Stock to Breed to Best Sires in Their Locality—Discard Scrubs.

Improvement in the horse stock of this country has never been offered greater opportunities than now. The surplus of common horses, fit for use, have been bought and shipped out, leaving the best and the poorest in quality. Horse owners have had the opportunity to sell those they did not care to keep for use on the farm. It is now up to the owners of breeding stock to breed to the best sires in



Serviceable on Any Farm.

their locality. There can be no excuse for breeding to any but the best purebred horses from now on, and the worthless old scrubs that are not now fit to sell will soon all be wiped off the earth and a new condition of horse quality should and will prevail. Owners of breeding stock must aim to breed for the highest priced animal the most serviceable to satisfy the demands for horse power.

Fresh Water for Hogs.

Hogs should have plenty of fresh water at all times, but it is always best to have this furnished from a well or spring on your own farm, for if they have access to streams that run through other farms before reaching yours, there is great danger of disease being carried down this stream to your hogs.

HOW MODERN YEGG WORKS

Up-to-Date Thief Would Scorn to Use the "Jimmy" Employed by His Predecessors.

In the American Magazine is an exceedingly interesting story entitled, "A Fool and His Money," which has been written by a sixty-year-old crook who has earned a dishonest but comfortable living for 30 years. Following is an extract in which the author describes a "gentleman burglar:"

"He was young and handsome, an excellent dancer, and always dressed to the minute. The women were only too glad to get the chance to dance with him, and he made many appointments of which their husbands or parents at home knew nothing. He did thing on an elegant scale, and would escort his admiring dance partner home each night, using a taxi, of course.

"At the door he would take the night key of the lady and open for her. Generally there would be a chat on the front stoop, and at its close the admirable dancer would depart, taking the key with him. If the robbery of the house promised good loot and the lady was thoughtful enough to ask for her key he would return it, but on the next night of appointment he would make a quick impression of the key in soft wax.

"In evening clothes and opera hat this burglar-dancer would ride up to the house in a taxi in the early hours of the morning, and before the very eyes of the cop on the beat enter the house and proceed about his business of collecting the family silver and cash. He robbed a dozen and more houses and apartments in the West side before he was trapped. He put up a fight and was shot twice before he surrendered. His career made a mild yellow journal sensation for a day or two."

DIFFER ON TEMPORARY STARS

Astronomers Have Two Views as to How the Somewhat Mysterious Bodies Originate.

Most of the textbooks suggest that temporary stars, or "novae," may result either from the collision of two bodies in space or from a sudden explosion or eruption of a single body. Professor Hale, in his recent review of the last ten years' work at Mount Wilson, states that a more plausible hypothesis is that of a faint star suddenly plunging into a gaseous nebula. The spectra of novae, after passing through remarkable changes, have usually been supposed to correspond closely in their last visible stage with the spectra of nebulae. Observations at Mount Wilson, however, are in harmony with an observation of Hartmann in showing that there is, at least in some cases, a still later stage, in which the characteristic lines of the nebular spectrum disappear, as if the star had finally passed out of the nebula which caused its sudden outburst of luminosity. On this hypothesis, the temporary brightness of these stars would be analogous to that of a meteorite passing through the earth's atmosphere and raised to incandescence by friction.—Scientific American.

Tolerance in Russia.

There is one test of a civilized country which is now universally recognized. Religious freedom is held to be essential to national greatness. Let us see briefly what this means in all the Russias. The governing class, drawn from inner Russia, belongs, of course, to the strict orthodox Greek church.

The Baltic provinces are Lutheran, Finland is Protestant, the southwestern provinces contain a large proportion of Roman Catholics and Jews; in the Crimea and the middle Volga are Tartar Mohammedans; in the Caucasus is a perfect babel of languages and consequently of creeds.

Religious tolerance, initiated by the reforming czar, Alexander II, is one of the tenets of government, and is nominally in force all over the empire.

Consumption of Gasoline.

In estimating consumption of gasoline statisticians usually figure consumption by motor owners as the principal demand on refiners and lump other consumption as not of great importance. However, President Brace of the National Association of Dyers and Cleaners, recently called attention to the great amount of gasoline used by cleaning establishments. He says that the annual consumption of gasoline for this purpose in the United States exceeds 70,000,000 gallons and is increasing all the time. Cleaners, according to Mr. Brace, use gasoline as laundries do water, and in figuring on the consumption of gasoline in this country he says the statisticians must not forget the great demands made on the refiners by the cleaners.—Wall Street Journal.

Made Right at Home.

Dorothy lives in Kenwood avenue and is spending a part of the fourth year of a busy existence in kindergarten. Returning home one afternoon after an entertaining talk by her teacher, Dorothy hurried to the home of her grandma nearby and informed that person of how clothes are made. "You see, grandma," said the excited and well informed miss, "we don't have to go across a big ocean to get our clothes. All the nice, warm things we wear are right here at home waiting for us. All you have to do is to go out and get a sheep, for all our warm clothes are made right from the fleas of a sheep."—Indianapolis News.

FARM ANIMALS

WHEN CHOLERA IS SUSPECTED

Take Temperature of Apparently Healthy Animals—Make Post-Mortem Examination of Dead Hog.

When a disease that is contagious appears among hogs, spreading more or less rapidly, is quite uniformly fatal, and is accompanied by a high temperature, it is quite safe to assume that it is cholera.

Where cholera is suspected, it is well to get a thermometer and take the temperature of a number of those that are apparently well. The normal temperature is from 101 to 103 degrees in winter and about 1 degree higher in summer. If cholera is present, the temperatures will be found as high as 105 to 107 degrees.

Make a post-mortem examination on a hog that has just died and examine the kidneys for small, dark red spots resembling those on a turkey egg. Look for small red spots along the small intestines and somewhat larger ones on the lungs. The lymphatic glands, which are found in the flank, along the intestines and between the lungs, and which are a light amber color in health, will be found congested and varying from a pink to a very dark color.

Where the services of a qualified veterinarian can be obtained, he should be called to make a post-mortem and to give serum.—Department of Animal Pathology, University of Nebraska.

SYSTEM OF FLOCK NUMBERS

Ear Notches Serve as Identification at All Times—Also Used With Cattle or Hogs.

(By C. S. ANDERSON, Colorado Experiment Station.)

In most flocks of sheep, especially of purebred animals, it is advisable to use some system of flock numbers aside from the registry number. It is easy for an ear tag to be lost out, but a good system of ear notches serves as an identification at all times.

The system used at the Colorado Agricultural college is one which can be recommended for small flocks. One notch in the base of the lower part of the left ear, 1; two notches at the same place represents 2; one notch in the lower and one in the upper part, 4, and one notch in the point of the left ear 5; one in the point and one in



Punch Used for Notching.

the base, 6; one at the point and two on the base, 7; one on the point and one in the upper part, 8; one in the point, one in the base and one in the upper part, 9. The right ear represents the tens, number ten occupying the same position as number one on the left ear. In breeding ewes certain markings such as holes in the middle of the ear can be used to designate the year of birth.

The system is only applicable to the small flocks of about a hundred sheep. If one wishes to mark a larger flock, there is a more complicated system by which sheep numbering up to 10,000 may be earmarked. It is not commonly used. These systems can also be applied to the marking of cattle or hogs.

PRODUCTION OF LIVE STOCK

Not Keeping Pace With Increase in Population—Manure Needed to Maintain Soil Fertility.

In raising live stock the successful farmer fully appreciates the value of good breed, proper care and scientific feeding. If any one feature is neglected the full value of the feed is not secured. The production of live stock is not, nor has it been for several years, keeping pace with the increase in our population and the demands from abroad.

Western ranges have been developed into farms so well satisfied with the high price obtained for corn, hay and other products that they have not bothered with live stock.

Because of the increasing demand for meat at home, and the deficit abroad partly because of the war, meat will command a very attractive price for many years to come.

Another reason why stock raising should not be neglected is because the manure from the live stock is indispensable in maintaining the fertility of the soil.

Cause of Ropy Milk.

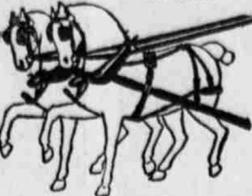
Ropy cream or milk is caused by a germ. The germ may come from a dusty stable or a stagnant pool of water through which a cow has waded. The difficulty may frequently be remedied by thoroughly scraping the dried manure from the barn and then whitewashing the interior, and by a thorough scalding of all pails, cans, and the separator.—R. M. Washburn, University Farm, St. Paul.

Simplify Work at Farrowing.

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SEEMED LIKE HOME TO BIRD

Canary Finally Successful in Breaking Into Jail, and May Serve a Life Term.

Having been born in a prison cage, it was only natural that a canary, regretting the breaking of home ties at a moment when the door was left open, should pause in his recalcitrant career when he saw the hundreds of barred windows of the Tombs prison, remarks the New York Herald. He always had associated bars with a well-filled seed dish.

This runaway canary had been trying for several days to break into jail, mistaking it probably for a bird cage—a jail bird cage. A "down and outer" at the penny coffee stand under the Tombs wall caught the hungry and remorseful bird. John Crowley, a turnkey, who had watched the little fellow for days, gave the outcast 15 cents for the bird and took him inside the prison.

There the canary was happy again. He flew about the cagewalls, ate greedily from the bird seed dishes, took a splashing bath in the bright sunshine, and sang joyously. The bars made him feel at home, and he may serve a term for life there.

Admired American Inventions.

As far back as 1876 some of the foreign commissioners to the Centennial showed their keen appreciation of the importance of invention and the advantages derived by America from its encouragement. One of the Swiss commissioners said: "I am satisfied from my knowledge that no people have made in so short a time so many useful inventions as the Americans, and if today machinery apparently does all the work, it nevertheless by no means reduces the workman to a machine. He uses a machine, it is true, but he is always thinking about some improvement to introduce into it, and often his thoughts lead to fine inventions or useful improvements." The reports to parliament of the British commissioner said that "as regards extent of invention and ingenuity, the United States was far ahead of other nations," and that "judged by its results in benefiting the public, both by stimulating inventors and by giving a perseveringly practical turn to their labors, the American patent law must be admitted to be the most successful."

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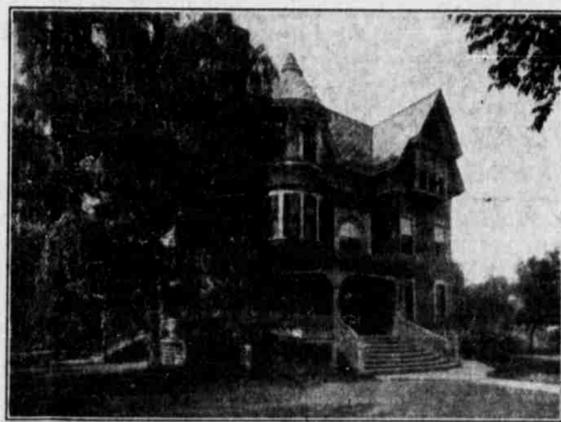
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